10/9/85 S3320-2

LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 94094 —

AUGUST, 1985

RELEASE DATE:
SEPTEMBER 25, 1985

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(In thousands)	PRELIMINARY AUGUST 1985				REVISED JULY 1985				REVISED AUGUST 1984			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	2,002.3	1,780.5	221.8	11.1	1,987.8	1,755.9	231.9	11.7	1,955.9	1,768.1	187.8	9.6
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	65.0	59.0	6.0	9.2	63.9	57.7	6.2	9.7	63.0	58.1	4.9	7.7
Baton Rouge 2/	262.2	235.7	26.5	10.1	259.6	231.9	27.7	10.7	252.9	231.4	21.5	8.5
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	86.0	77.1	8.9	10.3	86.3	77.0	9.3	10.8	84.7	76.7	8.0	9.4
Lafayette 4/	112.9	103.2	9.7	8.6	112.5	102.1	10.4	9.2	112.0	103.4	8.6	7.7
Lake Charles 5/	75.8	65.4	10.4	13.7	75.7	64.9	10.8	14.3	77.8	67.6	10.2	13.2
Monroe 6/	62.5	56.6	5.9	9.4	63.1	57.2	5.9	9.3	63.7	58.0	5.7	9.0
New Orleans 7/	584.8	519.4	65.4	11.2	585.0	515.7	69.3	11.9	583.8	529.9	53.9	9.2
Shreveport 8/	166.3	152.1	14.2	8.5	164.5	149.6	14.9	9.0	160.7	149.4	11.3	7.0

Parishes included in above Labor Market Areas are listed at the end of the Employment and Payroll Trends narrative.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana was estimated at 1,578,700 for August, a decrease of 1,400 from July's level and 21,400 lower than August a year ago. Much of the decrease was centered in the durable goods segment of manufacturing. Lower employment in transportation and public utilities and in government contributed significantly to the decrease in nonmanufacturing payrolls.

This public document was published at a total cost of $1,079.79. 2,900 copies of this public document were published in this 1st printing at a cost of $1,079.79. The total cost of all printing of this document, including reprints, is $1,079.79. This document was published by the Louisiana Department of Labor, Office of Employment Security, Research and Statistics Unit, P.O. Box 94094, Baton Rouge, La. 70804-9094. Its purpose is to disseminate information pertaining to labor market developments and employment trends under the authority of Part 602.6, Title 20, Chap. V. of the Code of Federal Regulations. It was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31.

Employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing, estimated at 82,700 for August, was 1,400 lower than July's figure and 2,400 fewer than the year ago figure. Lumber and wood products employment was up for the current month due largely to increased production of millwork, plywood and structural members. A layoff in the communication equipment industry accounted for the drop in electrical and electronic equipment employment. Transportation equipment payrolls were down primarily as a result of a decrease in business for ship and boatbuilding and repairing firms. Payroll additions in certain miscellaneous manufacturing industries resulted in an upswing for other durable goods.

Estimated employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing for August amounted to 94,200, an increase of 400 above last month's level, but a drop of 5,400 from August of last year. A seasonal increase in the canned fruits and vegetables industry was a large factor in the upturn of employment in food and kindred products. Increased production at paperboard mills was instrumental in the higher employment level for paper and allied products. Lessened demand for industrial organic chemicals contributed to the decline in chemicals and allied products payrolls.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing industries, at 1,401,800, was 400 below last month's level of 1,402,200 and a drop of 13,600 workers from August a year ago. Mining employment was down as a result of a decrease in the exploration for oil and gas. An upturn in heavy construction contributed most to the higher construction payrolls in August. Less business for the state's ports and decreased trucking and warehousing employment both were largely responsible for the downturn in transportation and public utilities. Trade employment for August was down as both the wholesale and retail segments experienced decrease. In particular, decreases in durable goods wholesale trade employment and in eating and drinking places were significant. Growth in hotels and other lodging places employment was responsible in large part for the increase in services payrolls. Estimated government employment in August was down due mostly to a decrease in state government, except education, payrolls.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 124,900 production workers in manufacturing decreased from $424.35 in July to $417.35 in August, a loss of $7.00. Average hourly earnings, at $10.46, was $0.11 above last month's level and $0.39 over August of last year. Weekly hours averaged 39.9 during August, a decrease of 1.1 hours from the July figure.

Estimated total unemployment in the state for August amounted to 221,800, a decrease of 10,100 from the July level of 231,900. The unemployment rate for August was 11.1 percent compared to 11.7 percent last month and 9.6 percent in August of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for August was 6.9 percent compared to 7.4 percent in July and 7.3 percent in August a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force went from 1,987,800 in July to 2,002,300 in August, an increase of 14,500. Total employment for Louisiana moved from 1,755,900 in July to 1,780,500 in August, an increase of 24,600.

Louisiana's unemployment rate is expected to continue its declining trend during the next month as students leave the labor force to return to school. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment is predicted to increase next month.

1/ Rapides Parish only. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Includes LaFourche and Terrebonne parishes. 4/ Includes Lafayette and St. Martin parishes. 5/ Calcasieu Parish only. 6/ Quachita Parish only. 7/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany , St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. 8/ Includes Bossier and Caddo parishes.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1985*	July 1985**	August 1984**	Net Change from July 1985	Net Change from August 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	1,578.7	1,580.1	1,600.1	- 1.4	-21.4
MINING	79.1	79.3	80.8	- 0.2	- 1.7
Oil and Gas Extraction	75.8	76.0	77.7	- 0.2	- 1.9
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.3	3.3	3.1	0	+ 0.2
CONSTRUCTION	112.8	111.6	122.8	+ 1.2	-10.0
MANUFACTURING	176.9	177.9	184.7	- 1.0	- 7.8
Durable Goods	82.7	84.1	85.1	- 1.4	- 2.4
Lumber and Wood Products	13.1	12.8	13.8	+ 0.3	- 0.7
Furniture and Fixtures	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.9	7.9	8.3	0	- 0.4
Primary Metal Industries	3.9	3.9	3.6	0	+ 0.3
Fabricated Metal Products	12.2	12.3	13.3	- 0.1	- 1.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.8	9.9	10.1	- 0.1	- 0.3
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	10.1	11.1	10.9	- 1.0	- 0.8
Transportation Equipment	22.1	22.8	21.6	- 0.7	+ 0.5
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.6	2.4	2.6	+ 0.2	0
Nondurable Goods	94.2	93.8	99.6	+ 0.4	- 5.4
Food & Kindred Products	21.3	20.8	22.3	+ 0.5	- 1.0
Apparel & Other Textile Products	8.8	8.8	9.6	0	- 0.8
Paper & Allied Products	10.9	10.5	11.8	+ 0.4	- 0.9
Printing & Publishing	10.2	10.1	10.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Chemicals & Allied Products	27.7	27.9	29.3	- 0.2	- 1.6
Petroleum and Coal Products	11.8	11.9	12.7	- 0.1	- 0.9
Petroleum Refining	11.0	11.0	11.7	0	- 0.7
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	3.5	3.8	3.9	- 0.3	- 0.4
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	114.4	115.2	119.5	- 0.8	- 5.1
Railroad Transportation	7.2	7.2	7.5	0	- 0.3
Transportation, ex. Railroads	65.5	66.1	69.5	- 0.6	- 4.0
Communication & Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Ser.	41.7	41.9	42.5	- 0.2	- 0.8
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	381.2	381.7	383.9	- 0.5	- 2.7
Wholesale Trade	94.5	94.7	95.0	- 0.2	- 0.5
Retail Trade	286.7	287.0	288.9	- 0.3	- 2.2
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc..	57.9	57.3	58.9	+ 0.6	- 1.0
Food Stores	54.7	54.4	53.5	+ 0.3	+ 1.2
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	33.1	33.4	32.6	- 0.3	+ 0.5
Eating & Drinking Places	85.6	86.2	87.6	- 0.6	- 2.0
Other Retail Trade	55.4	55.7	56.3	- 0.3	- 0.9
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	84.5	84.4	83.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
Banking	27.6	27.6	27.7	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	314.8	314.2	311.2	+ 0.6	+ 3.6
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	21.0	20.6	22.6	+ 0.4	- 1.6
Other Services	293.8	293.6	288.6	+ 0.2	+ 5.2
GOVERNMENT	315.0	315.8	313.5	- 0.8	+ 1.5
Federal	36.1	36.2	34.7	- 0.1	+ 1.4
State and Local	278.9	279.6	278.8	- 0.7	+ 0.1
State	92.4	93.1	96.7	- 0.7	- 4.3
Local	186.5	186.5	182.1	0	+ 4.4

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '85*	July '85**	August '84**	August '85*	July '85**	August '84**	August '85*	July '85**	August '84**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$417.35	$424.76	$413.88	39.9	41.0	41.1	$10.46	$10.36	$10.07
Durable Goods	378.07	387.98	377.70	39.3	41.1	40.7	9.62	9.44	9.28
Lumber & Wood Products	307.42	302.14	306.52	38.0	40.8	38.8	8.09	7.43	7.90
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	325.31	352.28	359.55	39.1	42.7	42.5	8.32	8.25	8.46
Fabricated Metal Products	395.75	422.17	382.45	42.6	45.2	42.4	9.29	9.34	9.02
Machinery, ex. Electrical	391.84	409.12	379.29	39.7	41.2	39.8	9.87	9.93	9.53
Electric & Electronic Equip.	461.03	414.41	429.68	41.2	38.3	41.0	11.19	10.82	10.48
Transportation Equipment	406.99	427.85	425.86	37.1	39.8	40.1	10.97	10.75	10.62
Nondurable Goods	456.84	462.58	448.78	40.5	40.9	41.4	11.28	11.31	10.84
Food & Kindred Products	283.06	287.65	258.03	38.2	38.2	36.6	7.41	7.53	7.05
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	161.50	172.54	184.78	30.3	31.6	38.9	5.33	5.46	4.75
Paper & Allied Products	558.11	578.53	550.41	43.5	44.4	42.9	12.83	13.03	12.83
Printing & Publishing	363.84	369.76	349.44	37.9	38.8	39.0	9.60	9.53	8.96
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	642.66	639.61	637.11	43.6	43.6	43.4	14.74	14.67	14.68
Petroleum & Coal Products	674.35	678.68	655.61	46.7	47.0	47.2	14.44	14.44	13.89
Petroleum Refining	693.25	702.14	673.55	47.0	47.7	47.5	14.75	14.72	14.18
MINING	546.80	565.17	518.54	49.8	51.1	46.8	10.98	11.06	11.08
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	489.64	498.98	464.51	40.2	40.7	39.6	12.18	12.26	11.73
BANKING	250.13	248.90	233.87	37.5	38.0	37.6	6.67	6.55	6.22

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 124,900 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 104,300 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY 08 85				REVISED 07 85			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE
CROWLEY (ACADIA)	25,850	22,800	3,050	11.8	25,675	22,300	3,375	13.1
OAKDALE (ALLEN)	6,750	5,475	1,275	19.0	6,575	5,275	1,300	19.8
NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION)	11,050	9,575	1,475	13.3	10,700	9,200	1,500	14.0
BUNKIE (AVOYELLES)	13,625	11,050	2,575	18.9	13,475	10,650	2,825	20.9
DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD)	12,925	11,425	1,500	11.6	12,825	11,250	1,575	12.2
ARCADIA (BIENVILLE)	7,825	6,975	850	10.8	7,675	6,800	875	11.3
COLUMBIA (CALDWELL)	5,450	4,950	500	9.3	5,350	4,800	550	10.1
CAMERON (CAMERON)	5,250	4,850	400	7.4	5,200	4,800	400	7.9
JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA)	6,325	5,425	900	14.3	6,200	5,275	925	14.9
HOMER (CLAIBORNE)	7,700	7,075	625	8.2	7,600	6,900	700	9.3
FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA)	10,850	9,125	1,725	16.0	10,725	8,900	1,825	17.1
MANSFIELD (DESOTO)	13,275	11,850	1,425	10.7	12,950	11,500	1,450	11.2
LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL)	5,825	4,950	875	15.0	5,550	4,700	850	15.4
CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA)	8,800	7,750	1,050	12.0	8,600	7,525	1,075	12.5
VILLE PLATTE(EVANGELINE)	15,050	12,950	2,100	13.9	14,550	12,325	2,225	15.3
WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN)	9,250	7,825	1,425	15.4	9,000	7,525	1,475	16.4
COLFAX (GRANT)	4,200	3,300	900	21.5	3,975	3,175	800	20.1
NEW IBERIA (IBERIA)	36,500	32,700	3,800	10.4	36,100	32,075	4,025	11.1
PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE)	16,475	14,250	2,225	13.5	16,325	14,000	2,325	14.2
JONESBORO (JACKSON)	6,950	6,300	650	9.2	6,900	6,225	675	9.7
JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS)	14,100	12,050	2,050	14.6	13,975	11,750	2,225	16.0
JENA (LASALLE)	6,900	6,250	650	9.4	6,875	6,175	700	10.2
RUSTON (LINCOLN)	21,950	20,875	1,075	4.9	21,525	20,525	1,000	4.7
TALLULAH (MADISON)	6,250	5,400	850	13.8	6,050	5,175	875	14.4
BASTROP (MOREHOUSE)	13,850	11,525	2,325	16.7	12,975	11,200	1,775	13.7
NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES)	18,175	16,550	1,625	8.9	17,875	16,175	1,700	9.5
POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUM.)	15,125	14,025	1,100	7.2	14,900	13,725	1,175	7.9
NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE)	14,475	12,775	1,700	11.8	14,025	12,275	1,750	12.5
COUSHATTA (RED RIVER)	4,850	4,325	525	10.9	4,750	4,250	500	10.7
RAYVILLE (RICHLAND)	9,400	8,300	1,100	11.9	9,175	8,050	1,125	12.4
MANY (SABINE)	8,875	7,825	1,050	11.7	8,825	7,700	1,125	12.8
GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA)	4,475	4,025	450	10.2	4,525	4,000	525	11.7
LUTCHER (ST. JAMES)	10,225	8,400	1,825	17.8	10,425	8,450	1,975	18.9
OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY)	36,325	29,925	6,400	17.6	35,925	29,325	6,600	18.4
MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY)	35,325	31,025	4,300	12.2	34,900	30,550	4,350	12.5
HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA)	37,650	31,725	5,925	15.7	37,550	31,025	6,525	17.4
ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS)	3,525	3,275	250	7.4	3,425	3,125	300	8.7
FARMERVILLE (UNION)	7,950	7,075	875	11.1	7,800	6,925	875	11.2
ABBEVILLE (VERMILION)	26,675	23,600	3,075	11.5	26,175	22,925	3,250	12.4
LEESVILLE (VERNON)	13,325	11,750	1,575	11.9	13,100	11,575	1,525	11.6
BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON)	15,750	13,325	2,425	15.4	15,400	13,000	2,400	15.6
MINDEN (WEBSTER)	16,525	14,275	2,250	13.6	16,450	14,050	2,400	14.6
OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL)	5,425	4,325	1,100	20.4	5,075	4,025	1,050	20.5
ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.)	3,975	3,550	425	10.9	3,875	3,500	375	9.5
WINNFIELD (WINN)	5,775	5,225	550	9.5	5,675	5,125	550	9.8

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESIS.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25 EXCEPT LMAS AND STATEWIDE WHICH ARE ROUNDED TO NEAREST 100. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1985*	July 1985**	August 1984**	Net Change From July 1985	Net Change From August 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	45.0	44.8	44.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
MANUFACTURING	3.6	3.4	3.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	2.4	2.4	2.3	0	+ 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.7	0.7	0.6	0	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.0	1.2	+ 0.2	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.8	0.6	0.8	+ 0.2	0
MINING	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	3.1	3.1	3.0	0	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	11.5	11.5	11.3	0	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	9.2	9.2	8.9	0	+ 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.6	2.6	2.5	0	+ 0.1
Other Retail Trade	3.7	3.7	3.6	0	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
SERVICES	9.5	9.5	9.6	0	- 0.1
Health Services	4.0	4.0	4.2	0	- 0.2
GOVERNMENT	12.2	12.2	12.2	0	0
Federal	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
State and Local	9.7	9.7	9.7	0	0
State	5.1	5.2	5.2	- 0.1	- 0.1
Local	4.6	4.5	4.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria labor market area was estimated at 45,000 for August. This estimate was 200 more than July and 300 more than August of last year.

Estimated employment totaled 3,600 in manufacturing, 200 more than last month and 100 more than August of last year. The increase since last month was in nondurable goods and the increase over last year was in durable goods.

Employment in nonmanufacturing at 41,400 for August was unchanged during the past thirty days. Since August of last year, nonmanufacturing employment has increased by 200. The estimated gains were in construction, and retail trade. There were some estimated losses occurring in wholesale trade and services.

During the next thirty days, total employment is expected to increase as educational facilities open for the fall session, and agriculture moves into its harvest season.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1985*	July 1985**	August 1984**	Net Change From July 1985	Net Change From August 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	215.7	215.4	214.9	+ 0.3	+ 0.8
MANUFACTURING	20.9	21.0	21.8	- 0.1	- 0.9
Durable Goods	4.3	4.3	4.3	0	0
Lumber and Wood Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	0.9	0.9	1.1	0	- 0.2
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.7	0	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	16.6	16.7	17.5	- 0.1	- 0.9
Food & Kindred Products	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	11.9	12.0	12.8	- 0.1	- 0.9
Other Nondurable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.0	0	+ 0.1
MINING	1.2	1.3	1.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	24.5	23.4	23.0	+ 1.1	+ 1.5
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	10.7	10.8	10.4	- 0.1	+ 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	53.2	53.4	52.7	- 0.2	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade	10.9	11.1	10.9	- 0.2	0
Retail Trade	42.3	42.3	41.8	0	+ 0.5
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13.5	13.5	13.3	0	+ 0.2
SERVICES	40.4	40.7	40.1	- 0.3	+ 0.3
GOVERNMENT	51.3	51.3	52.5	0	- 1.2
Federal	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	49.2	49.2	50.5	0	- 1.3
State	28.3	28.2	29.2	+ 0.1	- 0.9
Local	20.9	21.0	21.3	- 0.1	- 0.4

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '85*	July '85**	August '84**	August '85*	July '85**	August '84**	August '85*	July '85**	August '84**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$521.24	$518.31	$498.96	42.9	42.8	42.0	$12.15	$12.11	$11.88
Petro-Chemicals	705.72	692.85	670.77	47.3	46.5	45.2	14.92	14.90	14.84

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,500 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA at 215,700 during August was up 300 over July's revised estimate and up 500 over the total for last August. Manufacturing was down 100 and nonmanufacturing was up 400 during the current period.

Estimated employment in manufacturing at 20,900 during August was down 100 from July's revised estimate. Durable goods had no change while nondurable goods was down due to the gradual closing of a local industrial organic chemicals plant.

Employment in nonmanufacturing at 194,800 during August was up 400 from July's revised total. Mining was down due to a seasonal drop in oil and gas field services. Construction increased due to more business in heavy construction except highway and street construction and in miscellaneous special trade contractors. Transportation was down due to student workers leaving their summer jobs to return to school. Wholesale trade was down due to less demand for electrical goods and machinery, equipment, and supplies. Retail trade, finance, insurance and real estate had no change. Services were down due to less business in personnel supply services and in engineering, architectural and surveying services, and a seasonal drop in miscellaneous business services, and in job training and vocational rehabilitation services. Federal government was unchanged and an increase in state government was offset by a decrease in local government.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's 12,500 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $521.24 in August, up $2.93 over July's revised average. Average weekly hours were up one tenth of an hour and average hourly earnings were up four cents. Petro-chemicals also had small gains in each of the averages.

Total employment for Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 235,700 during August, up 3,800 over July's revised estimate and up 4,300 over the total for last August. Unemployment at 26,500 during August was down 1,200 from last month's revised estimate. The August unemployment rate was 10.1 percent and the revised rate for last month was 10.7 percent. The statewide rate was 11.1 percent during August. The Baton Rouge LMA civilian labor force totaled 262,200 during August.

The local unemployment rate is expected to drop some during the coming month as unemployed summer job seekers withdraw from the labor force to return to school and employment levels in educational services return to normal levels for the fall semester.

The Baton Rouge Job Service Office served 2,902 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 884 applicants in jobs during August.

The consumer price index for July, 1985 for all urban consumers was 322.8 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 319.1 using base period 1967=100.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1985*	July 1985**	August 1984**	Net Change From July 1985	Net Change From August 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	61.3	62.2	61.7	- 0.9	- 0.4
MANUFACTURING	6.2	6.7	5.5	- 0.5	+ 0.7
Durable Goods	4.4	4.6	3.6	- 0.2	+ 0.8
Nondurable Goods	1.8	2.1	1.9	- 0.3	- 0.1
MINING	8.7	8.6	7.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
CONSTRUCTION	3.4	3.4	3.3	0	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.9	6.9	7.5	0	- 0.6
Water Transportation	4.8	4.8	4.8	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.3	14.6	15.4	- 0.3	- 1.1
Wholesale Trade	3.2	3.4	3.9	- 0.2	- 0.7
Retail Trade	11.1	11.2	11.5	- 0.1	- 0.4
Eating & Drinking Places	3.5	3.6	3.6	- 0.1	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.3	2.3	2.5	0	- 0.2
SERVICES	9.0	9.1	9.5	- 0.1	- 0.5
GOVERNMENT	10.5	10.6	10.1	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Federal	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	10.0	10.1	9.7	- 0.1	+ 0.3
State	2.5	2.6	2.1	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Local	7.5	7.5	7.6	0	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Houma-Thibodaux LMA in August decreased to 61,300, a level 900 below July. All of the industry divisions except mining either held steady or showed decreases. Since August of last year, total nonagricultural wage and salary employment lost 400 workers.

Total manufacturing employment was 6,200 in August, down 500 from last month. Decreases were reported in both durable and nondurable goods. Seasonal decreases caused the drop in food and kindred products. Less business in fabricated metal products and ship and boatbuilding and repairing caused additional layoffs in August, after cutbacks last month. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment is up 700.

Wholesale trade moved down to the lowest level in more than two years, with the decreases spread through nondurable goods as well as durable goods. Retail trade tapered off, largely in food stores and eating and drinking places. Services were lowered by a decrease in business services. State government eased down. More favorably, mining eked out a small gain as the oil and gas industry pushed to take advantage of favorable weather conditions. Construction held steady. Finance, insurance and real estate showed no significant change. Water transportation remained at the same level.

Estimated unemployment in August decreased to 8,900, a level 400 below July. A decrease in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force was mainly responsible. Joblessness presently comprises 10.3 percent of the labor force compared to 10.8 percent in July and 9.4 percent in August of last year. The unemployment rate of 10.3 percent in August was lower than the state rate of 11.1 percent, but much higher than the comparable national rate of 6.9 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 2,007.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to display a small total upturn. Public and private educational services will pull back up to a normal employment level as the autumn school term gets underway. Retail trade will be boosted by back-to-school shopping. Unemployment is expected to decrease as many entrants and reentrants withdraw from the labor force to return to school.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1985*	July 1985**	August 1984**	Net Change From July 1985	Net Change From August 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	96.5	96.6	97.8	- 0.1	- 1.3
MANUFACTURING	5.7	5.9	6.3	- 0.2	- 0.6
Durable Goods	2.3	2.4	2.3	- 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	3.4	3.5	4.0	- 0.1	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
MINING	15.6	16.2	16.9	- 0.6	- 1.3
CONSTRUCTION	5.6	5.3	5.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	7.1	7.1	7.3	0	- 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	25.4	25.3	25.9	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Wholesale Trade	6.3	6.5	6.8	- 0.2	- 0.5
Retail Trade	19.1	18.8	19.1	+ 0.3	0
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Food Stores	3.4	3.2	3.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.8	1.8	1.9	0	- 0.1
Other Retail Trade	11.0	10.9	11.3	+ 0.1	- 0.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.1	3.9	4.1	+ 0.2	0
SERVICES	19.4	19.3	19.6	+ 0.1	- 0.2
GOVERNMENT	13.6	13.6	12.4	0	+ 1.2
Federal	0.8	0.8	0.9	0	- 0.1
State and Local	12.8	12.8	11.5	0	+ 1.3
State	5.3	5.3	4.4	0	+ 0.9
Local	7.5	7.5	7.1	0	+ 0.4

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette was estimated at 96,500 for August, a decrease of 100 workers below July's level and 1,300 below a comparable period a year ago. A decrease in manufacturing was responsible for the downturn.

Nonmanufacturing increased by 100 from July but fell 700 below the level of August, 1984.

Manufacturing employment decreased 200 from the previous month and 600 below the same period of time a year ago.

Mining showed the largest decrease of 600 from the previous month and 1,300 less than August of 1984.

The remaining industries remained relatively stable with little change.

Unemployment in Lafayette should decrease slightly next month as summer job seekers return to school.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1985*	July 1985**	August 1984**	Net Change From July 1985	Net Change From August 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	58.0	58.4	60.9	- 0.4	- 2.9
MANUFACTURING	9.3	9.3	9.9	0	- 0.6
Durable Goods	0.7	0.7	0.9	0	- 0.2
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.3	0	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	8.6	8.6	9.0	0	- 0.4
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Chemical & Pet. Products	7.7	7.7	8.1	0	- 0.4
Other Nondurable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
MINING	2.1	2.1	2.2	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	3.7	3.8	4.1	- 0.1	- 0.4
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	4.3	4.4	4.5	- 0.1	- 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.3	14.4	15.2	- 0.1	- 0.9
Wholesale Trade	3.2	3.2	3.4	0	- 0.2
Retail Trade	11.1	11.2	11.8	- 0.1	- 0.7
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.3	2.4	2.5	- 0.1	- 0.2
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.2	3.2	3.3	0	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	10.7	10.7	11.1	0	- 0.4
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
GOVERNMENT	10.9	11.0	11.1	- 0.1	- 0.2
Federal	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
State and Local	10.2	10.3	10.4	- 0.1	- 0.2
State	3.8	3.8	3.9	0	- 0.1
Local	6.4	6.5	6.5	- 0.1	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment fell 400 below July and 2,900 from August of 1984. This decrease was noted in the nonmanufacturing segment of the economy.

The manufacturing segment of the economy has not changed from the previous month but has decreased 600 from August of 1984.

The 400 decrease in nonmanufacturing appeared in trade, construction, transportation and public utilities and government. The remainder was stable.

The outlook is for continued decline in unemployment as the labor force shrinks with summer job seekers returning to school.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1985*	July 1985**	August 1984**	Net Change From July 1985	Net Change From August 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	52.5	54.6	54.2	- 2.1	- 1.7
MANUFACTURING	7.0	7.2	7.1	- 0.2	- 0.1
Durable Goods	2.0	2.1	2.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.9	1.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	5.0	5.1	5.0	- 0.1	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.9	0.8	- 0.1	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.4	3.4	3.4	0	0
MINING	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	3.1	3.4	2.9	- 0.3	+ 0.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.8	2.9	2.8	- 0.1	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	16.0	15.8	15.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
Wholesale Trade	4.1	4.2	4.4	- 0.1	- 0.3
Retail Trade	11.9	11.6	11.0	+ 0.3	+ 0.9
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	3.4	3.1	2.9	+ 0.3	+ 0.5
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.6	3.7	3.4	- 0.1	+ 0.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.3	4.3	4.1	0	+ 0.2
SERVICES	10.5	10.4	10.6	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.5	4.5	4.4	0	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	8.1	9.9	10.6	- 1.8	- 2.5
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	7.5	9.3	10.0	- 1.8	- 2.5
State	3.5	3.7	4.9	- 0.2	- 1.4
Local	4.0	5.6	5.1	- 1.6	- 1.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Monroe area dropped by 2,100 to an estimated 52,500. Even the opening of a new mall could not offset the drop in government as both the summer school semester and the summer youth programs came to an end.

Manufacturing, estimated at 7,000, was 200 below the July estimate. Minimal losses occurred in both durable and nondurable goods.

Nonmanufacturing, estimated at 45,500, was 1,900 below the June estimate of 47,400. Construction, with a loss of 300 workers, reflected the completion of work on the new mall. Transportation and public utilities was down minimally, 100 to 2,800. Wholesale and retail trade gained 200 to an estimated 16,000 workers. Although there was an increase in employment at the new mall, there was also a decline in other locations resulting in a smaller than expected overall gain. Services experienced a minimal gain of 100. Government was down by 1,800 and marked the end of the summer semester in local educational facilities as well as the various summer youth programs. All other segments were unchanged.

Employment in the area will increase with the seasonal upturn in employment as the new school term begins. Unemployment should remain relatively stable.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1985*	July 1985**	August 1984**	Net Change From July 1985	Net Change From August 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	530.8	533.9	550.0	- 3.1	-19.2
MANUFACTURING	46.5	47.0	48.6	- 0.5	- 2.1
Durable Goods	22.9	23.2	24.5	- 0.3	- 1.6
Lumber and Wood Products	0.6	0.5	0.6	+ 0.1	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.9	1.9	2.8	0	- 0.9
Fabricated Metal Products	3.0	3.1	3.4	- 0.1	- 0.4
Machinery, Except Electrical	2.9	3.0	2.9	- 0.1	0
Transportation Equipment	12.7	12.9	12.9	- 0.2	- 0.2
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	8.0	8.1	7.9	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.9	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	23.6	23.8	24.1	- 0.2	- 0.5
Food & Kindred Products	7.0	7.2	7.2	- 0.2	- 0.2
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.9	1.8	1.9	+ 0.1	0
Paper & Allied Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Printing & Publishing	3.8	3.8	3.6	0	+ 0.2
Chemicals and Allied Products	4.7	4.7	4.8	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	4.8	4.9	5.1	- 0.1	- 0.3
Other Nondurable Goods	0.3	0.3	0.4	0	- 0.1
MINING	19.8	20.2	20.0	- 0.4	- 0.2
CONSTRUCTION	31.4	31.3	36.6	+ 0.1	- 5.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	45.1	45.3	47.4	- 0.2	- 2.3
Railroad Transportation	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
Water Transportation	14.5	14.7	15.1	- 0.2	- 0.6
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	140.3	141.0	143.4	- 0.7	- 3.1
Wholesale Trade	35.2	35.3	35.9	- 0.1	- 0.7
Retail Trade	105.1	105.7	107.5	- 0.6	- 2.4
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	31.7	32.1	33.2	- 0.4	- 1.5
SERVICES	125.8	125.6	129.8	+ 0.2	- 4.0
GOVERNMENT	90.2	91.4	91.0	- 1.2	- 0.8
Federal	15.5	15.5	15.0	0	+ 0.5
State and Local	74.7	75.9	76.0	- 1.2	- 1.3
State	20.8	21.0	20.6	- 0.2	+ 0.2
Local	53.9	54.9	55.4	- 1.0	- 1.5

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '85*	July '85**	August '84**	August '85*	July '85**	August '84**	August '85*	July '85**	August '84**
All MANUFACTURING	$418.95	$425.32	$422.30	39.2	40.7	41.2	$10.56	$10.45	$10.25
Durable Goods	387.95	386.89	400.49	37.7	39.6	40.7	9.76	9.77	9.84
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	390.64	409.83	396.19	38.0	38.7	39.5	10.28	10.59	10.03
Fabricated Metal Products	389.80	466.94	447.61	44.6	51.2	48.6	8.74	9.12	9.21
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	327.68	361.08	381.31	32.9	36.0	38.4	9.96	10.03	9.93
Nondurable Goods	459.59	463.98	446.01	40.6	41.8	41.8	11.32	11.10	10.67
Food & Kindred Products	342.00	322.48	311.63	40.0	38.9	39.1	8.55	8.29	7.97
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	129.12	170.45	167.68	26.9	32.1	31.4	4.80	5.31	5.34
Paper & Allied Products	442.26	443.48	396.68	47.2	48.1	47.0	9.37	9.22	8.44
Printing & Publishing	342.77	363.13	345.58	38.6	41.5	40.8	8.88	8.75	8.47
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	701.01	707.18	652.46	44.2	44.9	42.7	15.86	15.75	15.28

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 30,600 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans LMA in August moved down to 530,800, a level 3,100 below July. All industry divisions showed decreases except services and construction, which displayed minor gains. Since August of 1984, total nonagricultural wage and salary employment lost 19,200 workers, partly reflecting a high level of total employment last year that included employment at the 1984 World's Fair and other industries stimulated by it.

Manufacturing employment totaled 46,500 in August, down 500 from last month. Lumber and wood products and apparel and other textile products were the only industries reporting small increases. The downturn in food and kindred products was due to seasonal factors. Layoffs were reported in transportation equipment, including ship and boatbuilding and repairing.

Fabricated metal products, machinery, and petroleum and coal products trimmed their payrolls over the month. Compared to this same time last year, manufacturing employment is down 2,100.

Local government made downward adjustments following last month's seasonal high of the year. State government exhibited a small summer decrease. Retail trade reduced employment mostly in eating and drinking places and automotive dealerships and service stations. Wholesale trade eased off in durable goods. Mining pulled down to the lowest level in more than a year, with the oil and gas industry confronting many perplexing problems. Finance, insurance and real estate decreased in each industry. Water transportation employment dropped to the lowest level in ten years. More favorably, construction edged up, taking advantage of better weather conditions. Services displayed a small gain, largely in automotive services and amusement services.

Estimated unemployment in August decreased to 65,400, a level 3,900 below July. A decrease in the number of entrants and re-entrants into the labor force was mainly responsible. Current unemployment accounts for 11.2 percent of the labor force compared to 11.9 percent in July and 9.2 percent in August of last year. The unemployment rate of 11.2 percent in August was slightly higher than the state rate of 11.1 percent, and much higher than the comparable national rate of 6.9 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits totaled 16,546. About 48.0 percent of the claimants were nonwhite; approximately 33.0 percent were female.

Factory workers earned an average $413.95 a week in August, down $11.37 from last month and down $8.35 from one year ago. Shorter work schedules in several manufacturing industries caused the drop of one hour and 30 minutes in average weekly hours. Average hourly earnings increased $0.11 over the month.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is predicted to exhibit an overall seasonal gain. Both private and public educational services will pull back up to normal employment levels as the autumn school term gets underway. Retail trade will be boosted by back-to-school shopping. Unemployment is expected to decrease as many entrants and re-entrants withdraw from the labor force to return to school.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1985*	July 1985**	August 1984**	Net Change From July 1985	Net Change From August 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	143.4	142.6	142.9	+ 0.8	+ 0.5
MANUFACTURING	21.1	21.7	23.0	- 0.6	- 1.9
Durable Goods	16.9	17.4	18.1	- 0.5	- 1.2
Lumber and Wood Products	0.6	0.6	0.8	0	- 0.2
Metals and Machinery	11.0	11.8	12.0	- 0.8	- 1.0
Primary and Fabricated Metals	2.0	2.0	2.4	0	- 0.4
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	9.0	9.8	9.6	- 0.8	- 0.6
Other Durable Goods	5.3	5.0	5.3	+ 0.3	0
Nondurable Good	4.2	4.3	4.9	- 0.1	- 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1.4	1.5	1.4	- 0.1	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.8	0.8	1.0	0	- 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.0	1.5	0	- 0.5
MINING	4.5	4.5	5.4	0	- 0.9
CONSTRUCTION	9.9	10.0	9.3	- 0.1	+ 0.6
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	8.2	8.3	8.9	- 0.1	- 0.7
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	35.5	35.6	34.3	- 0.1	+ 1.2
Wholesale Trade	9.4	9.7	9.2	- 0.3	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	26.1	25.9	25.1	+ 0.2	+ 1.0
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	7.9	7.9	8.2	0	- 0.3
SERVICES	32.3	31.9	31.8	+ 0.4	+ 0.5
GOVERNMENT	24.0	22.7	22.0	+ 1.3	+ 2.0
Federal	4.5	4.5	4.2	0	+ 0.3
State and Local	19.5	18.2	17.8	+ 1.3	+ 1.7
State	6.5	6.5	6.8	0	- 0.3
Local	13.0	11.7	11.0	+ 1.3	+ 2.0

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '85*	July '85**	August '84**	August '85*	July '85**	August '84**	August '85*	July '85**	August '84**
All MANUFACTURING	$426.53	$403.25	$418.18	39.9	38.7	41.2	$10.69	$10.42	$10.15
Lumber and Wood Products	237.33	222.46	231.73	40.5	40.3	40.3	5.86	5.52	5.75
Metals and Machinery	425.57	383.90	411.27	40.3	37.6	41.5	10.56	10.21	9.91
Food and Kindred Products	307.60	301.43	269.21	41.4	40.9	39.3	7.43	7.37	6.85
Printing and Publishing	254.70	284.77	315.20	31.6	33.7	39.4	8.06	8.45	8.00
Petroleum and Coal Products	519.38	483.29	409.45	45.6	43.5	41.4	11.39	11.11	9.89

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 16,000 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The nonagricultural wage and salary employment total increased to 143,400, up 800 from the revised July estimate of 142,600 and 500 more than the year ago estimate. The manufacturing employment total of 21,100 is 600 less than the previous month and 1,900 less than the August 1984 estimate. The nonmanufacturing employment estimate of 122,300 reflects a seasonal increase in local government with the start of the new school year.

The manufacturing employment estimate of 21,100 is down from the revised July estimate of 21,700 and the year ago total of 23,000. During the past month, most of the employment loss in manufacturing occurred in durable goods due to less demands for the communications equipment produced in this labor area.

Nonmanufacturing employment, at 122,300, includes 1,300 public school employees that will be deleted from the revised August estimates since they were not on the payroll during the reference week, or the week of the twelfth. An employment gain of 400 in services employment resulted from increased activity in business and legal services, and a slight employment increase in museums and art galleries. During the past month a small employment drop occurred in construction, transportation and public utilities and trade.

The Shreveport labor area has an estimated 16,000 production workers in manufacturing. These production workers had average weekly earnings of $426.53, average weekly hours of 39.9 and average hourly earnings of $10.19.

The civilian labor force in this labor area is 166,300, including 152,100 employed and 14,200 unemployed. The current unemployment rate is 8.5 percent.

This labor area will experience higher unemployment next month. The unemployment total for this area is expected to exceed 15,000 when September figures are released. The employment reduction in the manufacturing of durable goods will be partially offset by a seasonal upturn of educational services as the new school term begins.